

Application No.: 10/564,254
Amendment and Response dated December 20, 2010
Reply to Office Action of October 27, 2010
Docket No.: 1803-2 PCT/US/RCE
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Remarks/Arguments:

Introduction

Claims 1-40, 42-47, 50-54 and 61-70 are pending. Claim 68 has been amended. Specifically, Claim 68 has been rewritten into independent form. No new matter has been introduced. The claims are directed to the elected invention. Claims 55-60 and 63-66 have been cancelled in response to a restriction requirement. However, Applicant reserves the right to prosecute these claims in the future.

Entry of the claim amendments is respectfully requested.

Allowable Claims

Claims 1-21, 67, 69 and 70 are allowable over the prior art. Claim 68 would be allowable if rewritten into independent form. Claim 68 has been rewritten into independent form.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 22-40, 42-47, 50-54, 61 and 62 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 3,940,552 to Wessells (hereinafter "Wessells"). Applicants respectfully traverse. However, in the interest in advancing prosecution, claims 22-40, 42-47, 50-54, 61 and 62 have been cancelled, reserving the right to prosecute the claims in a future application.

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Summary

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1, and 68, and all claims dependent therefrom, are patentably distinct. Rejoinder of the withdrawn claims is respectfully requested. This application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable action thereon is therefore respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments concerning the above, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number given below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this communication, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 08-2461. Such authorization includes authorization to charge fees for extensions of time, if any, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 and also should be treated as a constructive petition for an extension of time in this reply or any future reply pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136.

Respectfully submitted,

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